

01-30-01

526 Rec'd MAILING DATE/NUMBER /

1029.65160

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)  
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.51)

09/744874

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

PCT/NZ99/00121

28 July 1999

28 July 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION

HANDLE FOR TRIGGER OPERATED TOOL

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

Noel Roger WAKELIN

JAN 29 2001

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

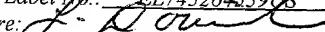
1.  This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2.  This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3.  This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4.  A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5.  A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
  - a.  is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b.  has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c.  is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6.  A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7.  Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
  - a.  are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b.  have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c.  have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d.  have not been made and will not be made.
8.  A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9.  An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
10.  A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

**Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:**

11.  An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12.  An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13.  A FIRST preliminary amendment.
- A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14.  A substitute specification.
15.  A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16.  Other items or information: 3 sheets of formal drawings; and International Search Report

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 29, 2001

Express Label No.: EL745264559US

Signature: 

17.  The following fees are submitted:

**BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5) ) :**

Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482)  
nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO  
and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$ 1,000.00

International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to  
USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO ..... \$ 860.00

International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but  
international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO ..... \$ 710.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)  
but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$ 690.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)  
and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) ..... \$ 100.00

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CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY  
JC07 Reg'l PCT/PTO 29 JAN 2001

**ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = \$1,000.00**

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than  20  30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). \$ 130.00

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	13 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00	\$ 0
Independent claims	1 - 3 =	0	X \$80.00	\$ 0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+ \$270.00 \$ 0

**TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1,130.00**

Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. A Small Entity Statement  
must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). (No longer required) \$ 565.00

**SUBTOTAL = \$ 565.00**

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than  20  30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). \$

**TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = \$ 565.00**

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be  
accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property \$

**TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = \$ 565.00**

Amount to be: refunded	\$
charged	\$

a.  A check in the amount of \$ 565.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.

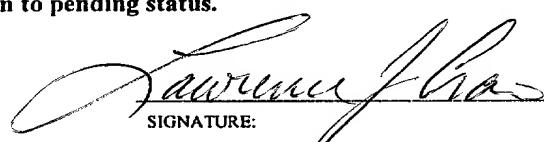
b.  Please charge my Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees.  
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

c.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any  
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

**NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.**

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.  
300 South Wacker Drive - Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Customer No.: 24978



SIGNATURE:

Lawrence J. Crain, Esq.

NAME

31,497

REGISTRATION NUMBER

09/744814

JCL/RSC PCT/PTO 29 JAN 2001

1029.65160

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Noel Roger Wakelin )

International Application No.: )  
PCT/NZ99/00121 )

International Filing Date: )  
28 July 1999 )

Serial No.: Unassigned )

Filed: 29 January 2001 )

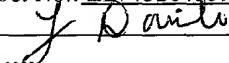
For: HANDLE FOR TRIGGER )  
OPERATED TOOL )

Art Unit: Unassigned )

Examiner: Unassigned )

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Appr. February 20, 1998

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

An Abstract is attached on a separate sheet as follows:

--A handle for attaching to a trigger operated hand tool, the handle including a shaft adapted so as to be attachable at one end thereof to the hand tool, a hand grip located

at the other end of the shaft, and a trigger activator positioned near the hand grip capable of being operatively connected to the trigger associated with the hand tool.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 14 and amend claims 1-13 as follows:

1. (Amended) A handle for attaching to a trigger operated hand tool wherein the handle includes:

a shaft adapted so as to be attachable at one end thereof to the hand tool;  
a hand grip located at the other end of the shaft;  
a trigger activator positioned near the hand grip capable of being operatively connected to the trigger associated with the hand tool; and  
the hand grip is angled with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shaft to allow the handle to be easily gripped by a person's hand.

2. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger operated hand tool is motorized.

3. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger operated hand tool is a nail gun.

4. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the length of the shaft is substantially 50cm to 70cm.

5. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft includes a clamp at one end thereof capable of holding a nail gun.

6. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger activator is in the form of a button or switch.

7. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger activator is in the form of a lever.

8. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 7 wherein the trigger activator is electrically connected to the trigger mechanism of the hand tool.

9. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 7 wherein the trigger activator is electrically connected to an electric device configured to be capable of operating the trigger associated with the hand tool.

10. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 8 wherein one end of a cable is connected to the lever such that pivoting of the lever causes the relative length of the cable to increase or decrease to control activation of the trigger associated with the nail gun.

11. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 11 wherein the cable is attached at its opposite end to a second lever which is pivoted via the relative shortening or lengthening of the cable, to control activation of the trigger.

12. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the handle includes a second hand grip positioned on the shaft at a point intermediate the two ends of the shaft.

13. (Amended) The handle as claimed in claim 13 wherein the second handle is adapted so that the position of the second handle on the shaft can be altered.

#### REMARKS

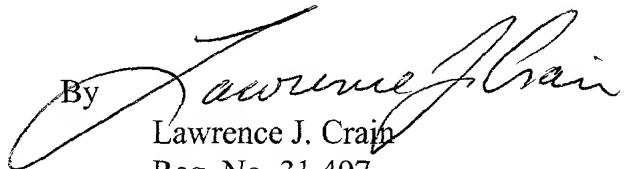
Prior to examination of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above-listed Amendment.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

For the foregoing reasons, applicant believes that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner is invited to call Applicant's Attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By   
Lawrence J. Crain  
Reg. No. 31,497  
Attorney for Applicant

January 29, 2001  
300 South Wacker Drive - Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
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Customer No.: 24978

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## **ABSTRACT**

A handle for attaching to a trigger operated hand tool, the handle including a shaft adapted so as to be attachable at one end thereof to the hand tool, a hand grip located  
5 at the other end of the shaft, and a trigger activator positioned near the hand grip capable of being operatively connected to the trigger associated with the hand tool.

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Claims:**

Claims 1-14 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A handle for attaching to a trigger operated hand tool

wherein the handle includes:

a shaft adapted so as to be attachable at one end thereof to the hand tool;

a hand grip located at the other end of the shaft [,] ;

a trigger activator positioned near the hand grip capable of being operatively connected to the trigger associated with the hand tool; and

[the handle characterised in that] the hand grip is angled with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shaft to allow the handle to be easily gripped by a [persons] person's hand.

2. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger operated hand tool is [motorised] motorized.

3. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger operated hand tool is a nail gun.

4. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the length of the shaft is substantially 50cm to 70cm.

5. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft includes a clamp at one end thereof capable of holding a nail gun.

6. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger activator is in the form of a button or switch.

7. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger activator is in the form of a lever.

8. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 7 wherein the trigger activator is electrically connected to the trigger mechanism of the hand tool.

9. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 7 wherein the trigger activator is electrically connected to an electric device configured to be capable of operating the trigger associated with the hand tool.

10. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 8 wherein one end of a cable is connected to the lever such that pivoting of the lever causes the relative length of the cable to increase or decrease to control activation of the trigger associated with the nail gun.

11. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 11 wherein the cable is attached at its opposite end to a second lever which is pivoted via the relative shortening or lengthening of the cable, to control activation of the trigger.

12. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the handle includes a second hand grip positioned on the shaft at a point intermediate the two ends of the shaft.

13. (Amended) [A] The handle as claimed in claim 13 wherein the second handle is adapted so that the position of the second handle on the shaft can be altered.

14. (Amended) [A] The handle substantially as described herein with reference to any example and/or drawing thereof.

3/PRTS

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Signature: *J. Donahue*

JC07 Rec'd PCT/PTO

29 JAN 2001

**HANDLE FOR TRIGGER OPERATED TOOL****TECHNICAL FIELD**

The present invention relates to a handle for use with trigger operated hand tools.

**5    BACKGROUND ART**

In particular, the present invention relates to a handle for use with nail guns. However, this should not be seen as limiting as it is envisaged that the handle of the present invention may be applied to other trigger operated hand tools.

- 10   For ease of reference only, the trigger operated hand tool will now simply be referred to as a nail gun.

Currently, due to a persons arm only having a limited reach, use of a nail gun to secure an object to another object often requires an operator to bend down or alternatively use a ladder or such like to effect securing.

- 15   Examples of such activities may include the use of a nail gun to secure a floor to a joist, or a sheet of plasterboard such as GIBBOARD™ to purlins. As should be appreciated, the need to bend down or use ladders and such like, can unnecessarily increase the time taken to use a nail gun to secure an object. In addition, having to bend down so as to secure a floor to a joint  
20   can often lead to operators of nail guns suffering from back strain.

It is an object of the present invention to address the foregoing problems or at least to provide the public with a useful choice.

Further aspects and advantages of the present invention will become

apparent from the ensuing description which is given by way of example only.

### **DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION**

According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided a handle  
5 for attaching to a trigger operated hand tool characterised in that the  
handle includes:

- a shaft adapted so as to be attachable at one end thereof to the hand tool,
- a hand grip located at the other end of the shaft,
- 10 - a trigger activator positioned near the hand grip capable of being operatively connected to the trigger associated with the hand tool.

It is envisaged that the trigger operated hand tool may be any one of a variety of hand tools without departing from the scope of the present invention.

- 15 In general, the trigger operated hand tool may be motorised.

The trigger of the hand tool will generally be in the form of a lever arrangement which is configured to allow for operation of the hand tool. However, this should not be seen as limiting the scope of the present invention.

- 20 In preferred embodiments the trigger operated hand tool may be a nail gun.

For ease of reference only, the trigger operated hand tool will now simply be referred to as a nail gun.

It is envisaged that the length of the shaft may vary.

In general, the length of the shaft will be dependent on the reach of the average user. Typically, the length of the shaft may be substantially 50cm – 70cm. However, this should not be seen as necessarily limiting the scope  
5 of the present invention.

It is envisaged that there may be a variety of different ways of adapting one end of the shaft so it can be attachable to a nail gun.

In preferred embodiments, the shaft may be adapted to include a clamp at one end thereof which is capable of holding a nail gun.

- 10 The hand grip may come in a variety of different forms without departing from the scope of the present invention.

In general, the hand grip may be angled with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shaft to allow for it to be easily gripped by a persons hand.

- 15 In preferred embodiment the handle may include a second hand grip positioned on the shaft at a point intermediate the two ends of the shaft.

In some further preferred embodiments, a second hand grip may also be provided, the second hand grip being adapted so as to be capable of having its position altered on the shaft of the handle.

- 20 In general, the second hand grip may include a collar adapted so as to either fix the handle in place, in a set position on the shaft, or alternatively allow the handle to move along the length of the shaft. This may usually be achieved, by using a collar which includes an open neck which can be closed or opened via tightening or loosening a bolt, or nut bolt combination. The effect of tightening or loosening the bolt, or nut and bolt combination,

being to effectively increase or decrease the internal diameter of the collar.

It is envisaged the trigger activator may come in a variety of different forms without departing from the scope of the present invention.

In some embodiments, the trigger activator may be in the form of a button  
5 or switch.

In preferred embodiments the trigger activator may be in the form of a lever.

It is envisaged that the trigger activator may be operatively connected to the trigger of the nail gun in a variety of different ways without departing  
10 from the scope of the present invention.

In embodiments where the trigger activator may be in the form of a button or switch, the trigger activator may be electrically connected to the trigger mechanism of the hand tool. In an alternative aspect the trigger activator may be electrically connected to an electrical device configured to be  
15 capable of operating the trigger associated with the hand tool.

In preferred embodiments, the trigger activator may be a first lever operatively connected to the trigger associated with the nail gun via a cable. The cable being attached at one end thereof to the first lever such that pivoting of the first lever causes the relative length of the cable to increase or decrease to control activation of the trigger associated with the  
20 nail gun.

In general this may be achieved by the opposite end of the cable being connected to a second lever pivoted via the relative shortening or lengthening of the cable, to control activation of the trigger. However, it is

envisioned other cable arrangements may be employed without departing from the scope of the present invention.

Thus, preferred embodiments of the present invention may have a number of advantages over the prior art which can include:

- 5      1.     Allowing an operator to effectively increase the reach of their arm.  
As a result bending down or using ladders and such like may not be required when using a nail gun to secure an object to another object.
2.     Decreasing the time taken to use a nail gun to secure an object to another object - for example, a floor board to a joist.
- 10    3.     The handle is lightweight and can be cheaply manufactured.
4.     The handle can easily be fitted to any nail gun.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

Further aspects of the present invention will become apparent from the following description which is given by way of example only and with

15 reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1    is a side view of one preferred embodiment of the present invention, and

Figure 2    is a partial view of the clamp showing a perspective view thereof, and

20    Figure 3    is a diagrammatic top plan view illustrating how the trigger activator is operatively connected to the trigger of a nail gun, and

Figure 4 is a diagrammatic top plan view of a second handle in accordance with a further aspect of the present invention, and

Figure 5 is a plan view of a skewer shown in Figure 2.

**BEST MODES FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION**

- 5 With respect to the drawings there is provided a handle 1 which is attached to a PASLODE™ cylindered powered nail gun 2. The handle 1 includes a shaft 3 which has a hand grip 4 located at one end thereof. Positioned substantially adjacent to the hand grip 4 is an activator lever 5. The handle 1 a second hand grip 60.
- 10 The other end of the shaft 3 has a clamp 6 which attaches the handle 1 to the nail gun 2. The clamp 6 includes an upright element 15 and cross members 11 and 12 as shown clearly in Figure 2. Cross members 11 and 12 are U-shaped when viewed from above and have an aperture 70, 71 near the end of one U-shaped arm 11, 12 and a slot 72, 73 near the other end of
- 15 the U-shaped arm.

- The nail gun 2 may be secured to or removed from the clamp 6 by means of skewers 22, 23. Skewers 22, 23 consist of a bolt element 26, 27 being threaded at one end so as to engage a nut 20, 21. The other end of the bolt element 26, 27 has or can include a lock 28, 29. This is shown most clearly in Figures 2 and 5. To remove nail gun 2 from the clamp 6 simply involves releasing the cam lock portion 28, 29 so that the nut ends of skewers 22 or 23 may be slid out of slots 72, 73 and moved outwardly in the general direction of arrow 80. To assist in this movement apertures 70, 71 should be a loose fit about bolt elements 26, 27.
- 25 To secure nail gun 2 to the clamp 6 is simply the reverse of the removal

process. To ensure the nail gun is safely secured within the clamp 6 may however involve some adjustment of the nuts 20, 21 to ensure that the cam locks 28, 29 can operate effectively to clamp skewers 22, 23 and their respective slots 72, 73.

- 5 The activator lever 5 is associated with a bowden cable 8 which has its other terminal end attached to a trigger lever 50 shown in Figure 3. The trigger lever 50 is attached to the clamp 6 by means of two struts of which only the top strut 51 is shown. The trigger lever 50 is able to pivot about fulcrum 52 as the length of the bowden cable 8 is relatively increased or
- 10 decreased via activation of lever 5.

Shortening of the bowden cable 8 in the direction indicated by arrow 60 causes the trigger lever 50 to depress trigger 10 of the nail gun 2. Once a nail has been fired return spring 54 helps return the trigger lever 50 to the position shown so as to release the trigger 10. Substantially, 15 contemporaneously with this occurring the bowden cable 8 should effectively lengthen (once lever 5 is released by the operator) so that the trigger lever 50 can return to the position shown in Figure 3.

With respect to Figure 4 there is shown the second hand grip 60 having a handle portion 61 and a collar portion 62. The collar portion includes a neck 63 including two outwardly directed flanges 64, 65 having apertures 67, 68. The apertures are bridged via a bolt 66. The thread of the bolt 66 engages with a corresponding inner thread in aperture 67. Consequently, tightening the bolt (i.e. generally by turning in a clockwise direction) causes the two flanges of the neck 64, 65 to move towards one another so as 20 to effectively decrease the internal diameter of the collar 62. Correspondingly, loosening the bolt 66 (i.e. generally by turning in an anti-

clockwise direction) causes the two flanges of the neck to move away from one another effectively increasing the internal diameter of the collar 62. Thus, by this means the hand grip 60 can be slid along the length of shaft 3, to a desired position wherein the second handle grip 60 is fixed in place 5 by tightening the bolt 66.

Aspects of the present invention have been described by way of example only and it should be appreciated that modifications and additions may be made thereto without departing from the scope of the appended claims.

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

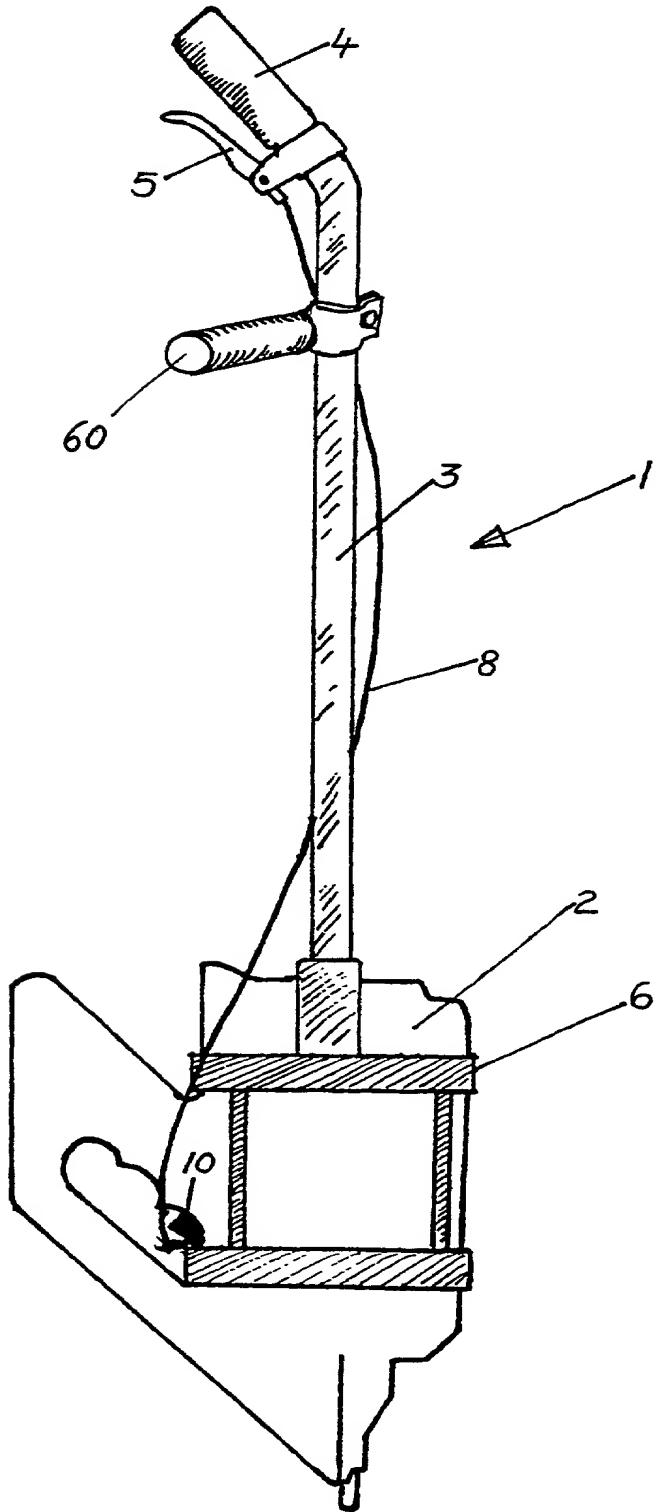
[received by the International Bureau on 21 December 1999(21.12.99);  
original claim 1 amended; claim 6 cancelled; remaining claims  
unchanged but renumbered as claims 2-14 (2pages)]

1. A handle for attaching to a trigger operated hand tool wherein the handle includes:
  - a shaft adapted so as to be attachable at one end thereof to the hand tool,
  - a hand grip located at the other end of the shaft,
  - a trigger activator positioned near the hand grip capable of being operatively connected to the trigger associated with the hand tool;

the handle characterised in that the hand grip is angled with respect to the longitudinal axis of the shaft to allow the handle to be easily gripped by a persons hand.
2. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger operated hand tool is motorised.
3. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger operated hand tool is a nail gun.
4. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the length of the shaft is substantially 50cm to 70cm.
5. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft includes a clamp at one end thereof capable of holding a nail gun.
6. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger activator is in the form of a button or switch.

7. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the trigger activator is in the form of a lever.
8. A handle as claimed in claim 7 wherein the trigger activator is electrically connected to the trigger mechanism of the hand tool.
9. A handle as claimed in claim 7 wherein the trigger activator is electrically connected to an electric device configured to be capable of operating the trigger associated with the hand tool.
10. A handle as claimed in claim 8 wherein one end of a cable is connected to the lever such that pivoting of the lever causes the relative length of the cable to increase or decrease to control activation of the trigger associated with the nail gun.
11. A handle as claimed in claim 11 wherein the cable is attached at its opposite end to a second lever which is pivoted via the relative shortening or lengthening of the cable, to control activation of the trigger.
12. A handle as claimed in claim 1 wherein the handle includes a second hand grip positioned on the shaft at a point intermediate the two ends of the shaft.
13. A handle as claimed in claim 13 wherein the second handle is adapted so that the position of the second handle on the shaft can be altered.
14. A handle substantially as described herein with reference to any example and/or drawing thereof.

1/3

FIGURE 1

2/3

FIGURE 2

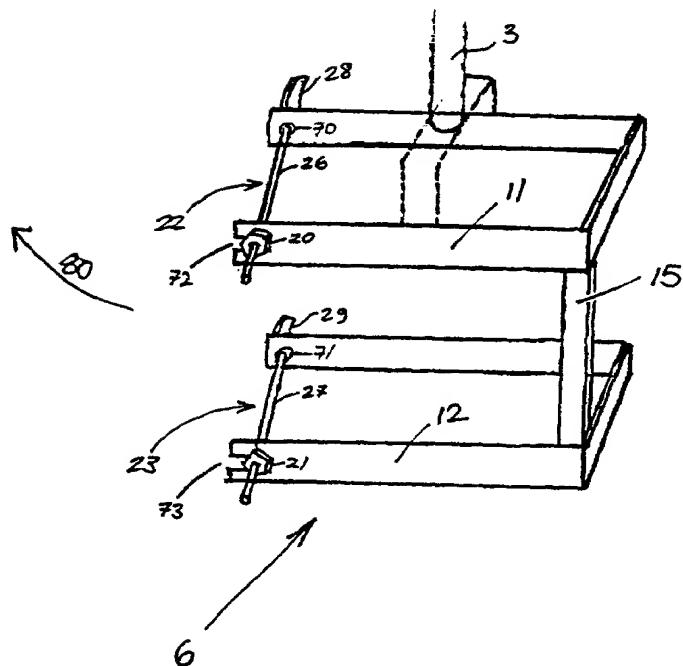
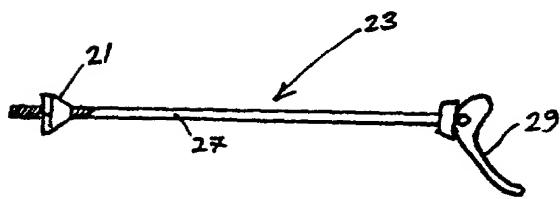
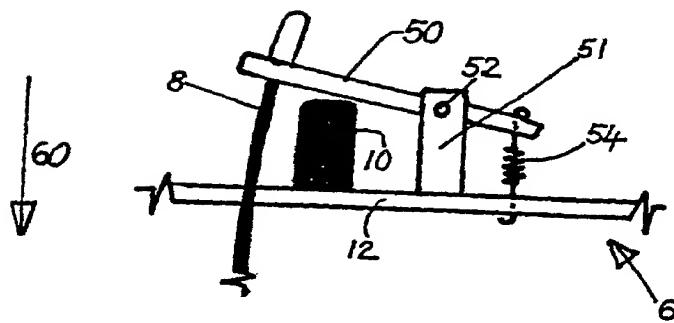
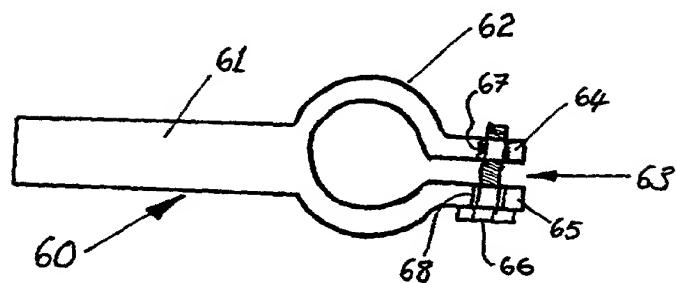


FIGURE 5



3/3

FIGURE 3FIGURE 4

That all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and request that all correspondence and telephone calls in respect to this application be directed to GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD., Suite 2500, 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606, Telephone No. (312) 360-0080:

Attorney

Roger D. Greer  
Patrick G. Burns  
Lawrence J. Crain  
Steven P. Fallon  
Paul G. Juettner  
James K. Folker  
B. Joe Kim  
Carole A. Mickelson  
Brittany C. Hosack  
Arik Ranson

Registration No.

26,174  
29,367  
31,497  
35,132  
30,270  
37,538  
41,895  
30,778  
44,159  
43,874

(10)

Full name of sole or one joint inventor:

Noel Roger WAKELIN

Inventor's signature:

Noel Roger WAKELIN

Date:

15 E Matai Street 21 Clyde St. NW

Residence and Post Office Address:

Mount Maunganui

NZ

New Zealand

Citizenship:

New Zealand citizen

Full name of additional joint inventor, if any:

Dean Andrew Eldridge

Inventor's signature:

Dean Andrew Eldridge

Date:

17-03-01

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1029.65160

UTILITY

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare:

That my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

That I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**HANDLE FOR TRIGGER OPERATED TOOL**

the specification of which (check one)

is attached hereto.  
 was filed on 28 July 1999 as  
 Application Serial No. PCT/NZ99/00121  
 and was amended on 21 December 1999  
 (if applicable)

That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

That I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

That I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)	Priority Claimed
<u>330859</u> (Number)	<u>New Zealand</u> (Country) <u>28 July 1998</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u></u> (Number)	<u></u> (Country) <u></u> (Day/Month/Year Filed) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<u></u> (Number)	<u></u> (Country) <u></u> (Day/Month/Year Filed) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

That I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**United States Application(s)**

<u>(Application Serial No.)</u>	<u>(Filing Date)</u>	<u>(Status)-(Patented, pending, abandoned)</u>
<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>